



Damian Hinds
MP for East Hampshire

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Damian Hinds' Statement on the Grange Birthing Centre

I was very concerned to hear of the suspension of birth and post-natal stay services at the Grange Maternity Centre in Petersfield until early January.

I understand this decision is nothing to do with budgetary pressures and instead is driven by an unexpected temporary increase in the number of births due in the wider area in the next few months.

Whilst I do, of course, understand and respect the need for NHS management to make such decisions in the interests of all patients, the notice given was short and I have already heard from constituents who had been expecting to have their babies at the Grange during the period in question.

Especially given the history, I have sought assurances from NHS management that this is indeed a temporary suspension and a one-off and that the full range of services will be resumed in January and thereafter maintained.

The Grange is a marvellous and much loved facility, of which we have some first-hand experience in my own family. I do hope more mothers and mothers-to-be in the area will choose the Grange. It is very important that these facilities are used.